

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 05995 221719Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAB-02 /069 W

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P 221645Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3291

UNCLAS PANAMA 5995

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PBOR, GY, PN

SUBJECT: TORRIJOS' STATEMENTS SUPPORTING NEW TREATY

FOLLOWING, AS REPORTED BY FBIS (191858Z AUG 77) ARE EXCERPTS FROM TORRIJOS' SPEECH PRESENTED FRIDAY 19 AUGUST TO MEETING OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES, ALL IMPORTANT GOP LEADERS, AND BROADCAST BY LOUDSPEAKER TO CROWD OUTSIDE MEETING HALL:

QUOTE: THIS TRIUMPH, WHICH I COME TO PRESENT TO YOU HERE, IS A TRIUMPH WHICH RESULTS FROM THE GREATEST CONVICTION THAT WE HAVE TRIUMPHED (AS HEARD)....I CAN TELL YOU THAT THIS IS A TRIUMPH WHICH FILLS ME WITH PRIDE BECAUSE TO CHANGE THE TERM PERPETUITY TO 23 YEARS IS A TRIUMPH OF THIS GENERATION. I TELL YOU THAT I AM PROUD OF THE NEGOTIATING TEAM, BECAUSE THEY SET A DEADLINE ON PERPETUITY,.... AND I TELL YOU THAT I AM PROUD BECAUSE I AM CONVINCED THAT THE GREAT OBJECTIVES OF SOVEREIGNTY CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED THROUGH THIS STRUGGLE WHICH THE COUNTRY HAS WAGED,.... NEVER BEFORE HAVE I FELT MORE RESPECT FOR THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THIS EFFORT.... WHAT WILL HAPPEN? I KNOW THAT THERE IS A QUESTION IN THE MINDS OF ALL THE PEOPLE... WE ARE GOING TO MAKE THE MOST COLLECTIVE USE POSSIBLE OF THOSE RECOVERED AND OF

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THOSE SQUARE KILOMETERS....AND I AM COMPLETELY SURE, BECAUSE EACH MEMBER OF OUR GENERATION, ONE WAY OF ANOTHER, HAS BEEN HUMILIATED IN THAT ENCLAVE WHICH TODAY WE ARE DISMANTLING BY MEANS OF THIS TREATY WHICH WE ARE PROPOSING. I AM COMPLETELY SURE THAT WE WILL BE PRESENT AT THE POLLS TO GIVE THE COUNTRY AND THE LEADERS A TESTIMONIAL TO THE FACT THAT, HAVING GIVEN ME A

BLANK CHECK TO NEGOTIATE THIS TREATY, YOU ARE NOW
ACCEPTING THE RESULTS OF THIS ACT OF FAITH AND CON-
FIDENCE. YOU ARE ACCEPTING IT WITH SATISFACTION, AND
YOU DO SO BECAUSE IT IS A TREATY WHICH DECOLONIZES AND
DOES SO RAPIDLY; BECAUSE IT IS A TREATY WHICH RETURNS
TO US ALL THAT HAD BEEN TAKEN FROM US BY FORCE; AND
BECAUSE IT IS A TREATY WHICH WILL STRENGTHEN OUR
PERSONALITY AS PANAMANIAN AND WILL GIVE PANAMANIAN
MORE DIGNITY EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD.
JORDEN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: PGOV, PBOR, EWWT, GY, PN, (TORRIJOS HERRERA, OMAR)
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